

KNOX CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2016-2017 academic year was a year of firsts. Waste reduction and reuse initiatives continued to remain strong, but this academic year the campus initiated new projects conserving water and energy. The following annual report summarizes and highlights the successes achieved in sustainability during the 2016-2017 academic year.



Student volunteers installed the campus' first rain garden.

Participants in an Anthropology / Sociology and Environmental Studies course designed and installed a rain garden that can divert and infiltrate more than 500 gallons of stormwater from each 1" rain event.



First on-site renewable energy installed on campus.

Starting as a student-led independent project, the Student Senate-funded array of solar panels was installed on Wilson House with the goal for the building to be powered entirely by solar energy.



Donation funds five student projects.

A one-time donation provided funds to five students to work on sustainability-focused projects. These ranged from senior research on green roof soil to a student organization working to build a hydroponic garden.



Zero waste Commencement lunch.

The 2017 Commencement lunch generated the lowest quantity of waste since the effort began three years ago - only 0.4 pounds. The first time less than a pound of landfill-only waste was produced.



KNOX CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY BY THE NUMBERS



13,782

pounds of food donated to local organizations and diverted from the landfill.

89
bikes in the Bike Share program.

237
bike loans processed.



12,755

pounds of still-good items diverted from the landfill. Items are used to stock the campus Share Shop and are donated to local organizations.

2,346
pounds of food grown by students for the Knox community.

383
reservations for two car share vehicles hosted on campus.

165
members of the Knox and Galesburg communities attended the 2017 Prairie Fire Bioneers conference.

OF THE 2017 GRADUATES



80% SIGNED THE PLEDGE

240 of the 301 seniors that graduated in 2017 signed the Graduation Pledge of Social and Environmental Responsibility, sponsored by the Graduation Pledge Alliance (GPA), which was signified by wearing a green ribbon on their Commencement regalia.

RANKINGS



AASHE AND THE STARS RATING SYSTEM

Knox has been a member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) since 2012.

In 2015, Knox earned a Silver level in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ (STARS) with a score of 50.38.



SIERRA MAGAZINE COOL SCHOOLS LIST

Knox was ranked #138 out of 201 schools in *Sierra Magazine's* 2016 list of Cool Schools. The scoring key is a reflection of Sierra Club's broader priorities and awards more weight in the areas of campus energy use, transportation and fossil fuel divestment.



PRINCETON REVIEW GUIDE TO GREEN SCHOOLS

Knox was have chosen for inclusion in the new 2016 edition of The Princeton Review Guide to 361 Green Colleges. This was the first year Knox was included in this list. Schools selected all received Green Rating scores of 60 or higher in our Princeton Review Green Rating score. Knox earned 88 out of 99 possible points.